

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-18 remain pending.

Support for each amended claim is found at the originally filed claims and throughout the originally filed specification. Additionally, support for the feature of present Claim 1 “wherein each of the hydrocarbon polymers (a) is a polymer of a monomer bearing a cyclic structure, or a copolymer of a monomer bearing a cyclic structure and an aliphatic monomer selected from the group consisting of ethylene, propylene, butane, pentene, hexene, heptene, octane, nonene and decene,” is found, for example, at page 9, second paragraph, of the originally filed specification.

No new matter is believed to have been added.

The objection to Claims 16-18 is believed to be obviated by the amendment of these claims to remove the material “hydrogenated polyisobutylene.” Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The obviousness rejection of Claims 1-10 and 16-18 as being unpatentable in view of Yoshida in combination with Bartley and Wedlock is respectfully traversed, because the references, either alone, or in combination, do not describe or suggest all of the features of present Claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom.

Present Claim 1 is drawn to a traction drive fluid composition that contains, as part of the composition, “at least one polymer having a weight average molecular weight in the range of 8,000 to 40,000 and which is selected from the group consisting of (a) hydrocarbon polymers each comprising as a constituent at least 10 mole% of a monomer bearing a cyclic structure and (c) hydrogenated products from the polymers (a); wherein each of the hydrocarbon polymers (a) is a polymer of a monomer bearing a cyclic structure, or a copolymer of a monomer bearing a cyclic structure and an aliphatic monomer selected from

the group consisting of ethylene, propylene, butene, pentene, hexene, heptene, octane, nonene and decene.”

Applicants submit that this feature is not described or suggested by the references, either alone or in combination.

The Office, at page 4 of the Official Action, relies on Bartley to remedy a deficiency of Yoshido, who does not describe the above-presented Claim 1 feature. Specifically, the Office states “Bartley is added to teach that traction fluids may additionally contain polymeric viscosity index modifiers including hydrogenated polymers of styrene with butadiene or isoprene.” Thus, the Office is relying on Bartley to supply component B of present Claim 1.

However, Applicants note that in present Claim 1, “each of the hydrocarbon polymers (a) is a polymer of a monomer bearing a cyclic structure, or a copolymer of a monomer bearing a cyclic structure and an aliphatic monomer selected from the group consisting of ethylene, propylene, butene, pentene, hexene, heptene, octane, nonene and decene.”

A hydrogenated polymer of a monomer bearing a cyclic structure is not the same as Bartley’s “hydrogenated polymers of styrene with butadiene or isoprene” because the hydrogenated polymer of a monomer bearing a cyclic structure lacks the hydrogenated butadiene or isoprene units that would be present in Bartley’s co-polymer.

Additionally, a hydrogenated copolymer of a monomer bearing a cyclic structure and an aliphatic monomer selected from the group consisting of ethylene, propylene, butene, pentene, hexene, heptene, octane, nonene and decene is not the same as Bartley’s “hydrogenated polymers of styrene and butadiene or isoprene” because the co-monomer of the copolymer is not one of “butadiene or isoprene.”

Accordingly, Bartley does not describe or suggest component B of present Claim 1, so Bartley does not remedy the deficiency of Yoshida.

Similarly, Wedlock, in disclosing “diblock copolymers of styrene and a conjugated diene such as butadiene and isoprene” (see the Official Action, page 4) fails to describe or suggest component B of present Claim 1.

For example, a polymer of monomer bearing a cyclic structure is not the same as Wedlock's “diblock copolymers of styrene and a conjugated diene such as butadiene and isoprene” because the polymer of a monomer bearing a cyclic structure lacks the butadiene or isoprene units that would be present in Wedlock's copolymer.

Additionally, copolymer of a monomer bearing a cyclic structure and an aliphatic monomer selected from the group consisting of ethylene, propylene, butene, pentene, hexene, heptene, octane, nonene and decene is not the same as Wedlock's “diblock copolymers of styrene and a conjugated diene such as butadiene and isoprene” because the co-monomer of the copolymer is not one of “butadiene or isoprene.”

Accordingly, Wedlock does not describe or suggest component B of present Claim 1, so Wedlock does not remedy the deficiency of Yoshida.

Because Wedlock and Bartley, either alone or in combination, fail to remedy the deficiency of Yoshida, withdrawal of the obviousness rejection is respectfully requested.

The obviousness rejection of Claims 1-10 and 16-18 as being unpatentable in view of Abe in combination with Bartley and Wedlock is respectfully traversed, because the references, either alone or in combination, do not describe or suggest all of the features of present Claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom.

The Office relies on Bartley and Wedlock to supply component B of present Claim 1 to Abe. As described above, Bartley and Wedlock fail to describe or suggest component B

of present Claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom. Thus, Bartley and Wedlock fail to remedy the deficiency of Abe. Withdrawal of the obviousness rejection is respectfully requested.

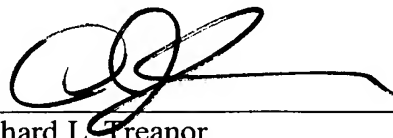
The obviousness rejection of Claims 1-6 and 11-18 as being unpatentable in view of Murai in combination with Bartley and Wedlock is respectfully traversed because the references, either alone or in combination, do not describe or suggest all of the features of present Claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom.

The Office relies on Bartley and Wedlock to supply component B of present Claim 1 to Murai. As described above, Bartley and Wedlock fail to describe or suggest component B of present Claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom. Thus, Bartley and Wedlock fail to remedy the deficiency of Murai. Withdrawal of the obviousness rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit the present application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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